

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

Please cancel claims 13 -26 without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application, please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice and please add claims 31-35, so that the claims read as follows:

claims 1-8 (canceled)

9. (original) An article comprising,

(a) a composite comprising a continuous fiber material and a thermoplastic; and

(b) a base metal, wherein the composite is directly adhered to a first surface of the base metal and the thermoplastic has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially the same as a coefficient of thermal expansion of the base metal.

10. (original) The article according to claim 9, wherein the continuous fiber material is a continuous carbon fiber material.

11. (original) The article according to claim 9, wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of a mechanical seal face, thrust bearing pad, a journal bearing, and a segmented journal bearing pad.

12. (original) The article according to claim 9, wherein the thermoplastic is selected from a group consisting of polyarylene ether ketone, polyarylene ether ketone ketone, polyarylene ether ether ketone, and derivatives thereof.

13.-26. (canceled).

27. (original) A composite comprising a fiber material and a thermoplastic, wherein the composite is capable of being directly adhered to a base metal and the composite has a coefficient of thermal expansion substantially the same as a coefficient of thermal expansion of the base metal, wherein the composite is directly adhered to the base metal using compression molding.

28. (original) The composite according to claim 27, wherein the material is a carbon fiber material which is a chopped carbon fiber.

29. (original) The composite according to claim 27, wherein the carbon fiber is continuous carbon fiber material.

30. (original) The composite according to claim 27, wherein the carbon fiber material is continuous woven carbon fiber material.

31. (new) The article according to claim 10, wherein the carbon fiber material is woven carbon fiber.

32. (new) The article according to claim 10, wherein the carbon fibers are at least 6 millimeters in length as measured longitudinally.

33. (new) The article according to claim 9, wherein the woven carbon fiber material is selected from a group consisting of 5-Harness Satin, 2x2 Twill and plain weave.

34. (new) The article according to claim 9, wherein the thermoplastic comprises about 70% to about 30% by volume of the composite based on a total volume of the composite.

35. (new) The article according to claim 34, wherein the thermoplastic comprises about 60% to about 40% by volume of the composite based on the total volume of the composite.